**My past, present, and future**

My beliefs in education were to always attend college and achieve a career that I would enjoy doing. Yes, when I was in elementary school I dreamed of becoming a cop, teacher, softball player, superwomen, model, singer and even the president of the United States. Now that I’m older to understand, I know that the only reason I wanted to pursue these careers was because these were my role models. As I was getting older I started to become interested in other things, especially in the things that I had valuable skills for.

It has taken me 18 years to create the person that I am today. I was raised in Puerto Rico for 11 years in a very small town. Within these years a huge consideration for the world grew inside of me. As a child, I was curious about everything that revolves around me and the world. When I was young I told myself that I would become the greatest scientist. Because I wanted to communicate with people and let them appreciate this world and the beauty of it. Science is something we touch base with every day. Many people today do not realize that everything we do in our everyday life has to do with science. It’s really amazing how everything in this world works. Science became more of an importance to me because I was the type of young-woman that questioned everything until I received an answer. In middle school I would always go to my science teacher to ask questions about what we were learning in class. I use to help my teacher put up new posters, and also grade some of the exams. I did not think I was a teacher’s pet, but everyone else in the class thought different. The main reason I looked up to my science teacher’s was because of the interest I had in everything that they were able to teach me.

I remember, as a child, going to the beaches every day. The beach was my favorite place because everything was so natural, uncontrolled, and universal. The beach was my escape from everything, from home and from school. I grew up in a healthy family; I have two older sisters and brothers that made my childhood days vibrant with joy and color. My parents did not have the careers they dreamed of because they were raised in a dire neighborhood, but somehow they managed to get out the streets when they had all of us. When we moved to Puerto Rico that is when I started to have dreams, and thoughts about becoming a marine biologist. I started to gain a passion for sea animals when my parents took me to aquariums, and dolphin shows. I remember the first time I actually touched one of the dolphins; it was so magical. I could not get myself to stop talking about that day. That’s when I knew all I wanted to do was train and find out everything about that profession. Meanwhile, my parents had decided to move back to Philadelphia because of the better career choices and opportunities.

My dreams with sea animals began to fall apart due to my grandfather’s death, which occurred just a year ago. Seeing my grandfather fight for his life; it made me realize that I wanted to help people that were in his condition. Today, I am a Pre-med major and even though I did not follow through with my childhood dream becoming a doctor is still in the science field. I thank my grandfather for helping make a great choice. Choosing Pre-med as my major was one of the greatest decisions I have ever made because I know that my grandfather would be there in spirit and also very proud of me.

Being a Pre-med major has been fun, but also very challenging. It starts off and remains with a lot of late nights. I study to the best of my advantage, but still some of the times I disappoint myself because after all the hard work I put in I can still get a C- in the exams, when I was expecting to receive a B+. I remember my first physics test this semester. I studied until 6 o’clock in the morning and took the exam with so much confidence, I expected to have the highest test score and I ended up with a C-. Occasions like these are the ones I take as a lesson because I know next time I’m going to work twice as hard to earn my B+. I always tell myself everything happens for a reason, so I move on and just make progress.

In the future I see myself in the hallways of a hospital talking to the patient’s families. Even though, I was not at the hospital when my grandfather past away. One thing I remember was getting the worst phone call I have ever received. Seeing how my family reacted due to our loss I wouldn’t want to see any other family go through the same exact thing.